

Message Text

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ORIGIN COA-02

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P 132235Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 224123

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TPHY, EC

SUBJECT: RESEARCH CRUISE USNS DESTIEGUER

1. USNS DESTIEGUER, NAVY RESEARCH VESSEL REQUIRES CLEAR-
ANCE TO CONDUCT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WITHIN TERRITORIAL
SEAS ECUADOR. SHIP'S MISSION CALLS FOR SERIES OF CLOSE
SPACED NORTH SOUTH TRAVERSES OF GALAPAGOS RIDGE WHILE
RECORDING BATHYMETRIC, MAGNETIC AND SEISMIC PROFILE DATA.
PROGRAM IS ONE OF BASIC MARINE RESEARCH OF GEOPHYSICAL
NATURE, CHIEF INTEREST IS EXAMINATION OF TRANSITION AREA
BETWEEN TWO MAGNETIC ANOMALIES--ONE OF HIGH AMPLITUDE,
ONE LOW AMPLITUDE. THIS CRUISE WILL TRY TO DETERMINE IF
TRANSITION IS ABRUPT OR GRADUAL, AND IF IT MIGRATES WEST-
WARD WITH DECREASING AGE. PHENOMENA IS PRODUCT OF SEA
FLOOR SPREADING FROM GALAPAGOS RIDGE. ALL DATA WILL BE
UNCLASSIFIED AND AVAILABLE TO GOE SCIENTISTS. NAVY
SCIENTISTS EXPECT TO HAVE DATA READY WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER
CRUISE COMPLETION AND WILL SUPPLY. VESSEL ITINERARY
FOLLOWS:

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ARRIVE	PORT	DEPART
	SAN DIEGO	3 JANUARY
,6 JANUARY	BALTRA	17 JANUARY
1 FEBRUARY	ACAPULCO	5 FEBRUARY
1 MARCH	OAKLAND	

2. USNS DESTIEGUER (T-AGOR 12) CHARACTERISTICS: LENGTH 64 METERS, BEAM 12M, DRAFT 6M, DISPL 1360 TONS. LARRY WIRTH IS MASTER WITH CIVILIAN OFFICER/CREW COMPLEMENT OF 26; CHIEF INVESTIGATOR DR. PETER R. VOGT HEADS SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 8. VOGT US CITIZEN BORN 1939 WITH MA & PHD IN GEOPHYSICS FROM UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

3. ACTION: QUITO INITIATE REQUEST FOR CLEARANCE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TERRITORIAL SEA ECUADOR PERIOD 17 JAN TO 1 FEB. VESSEL'S TRACK IS CHIEFLY NORTH WEST OF GALAPAGOS, BUT INCLUDES SOME WORK WITHIN ARCHIPELAGO INSIDE 3 MILES. IT IS CONTINUATION OF PREVIOUS EFFORT OF USNS BARTLETT. PAUL C. ROBLES, CHIEF OF HYDROGRAPHIC AND OCEANOGRAPHIC SERVICE OF ECUADOR, PARTICIPATED IN BARTLETT'S WORK OF 31 JAN - 23 FEB 1971 AND INDICATED INTEREST OF HIS ORGANIZATION IN FUTURE CRUISES. ADDITIONAL RESEARCH OF INTEREST TO OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE WILL BE UNDERTAKEN ON NOT TO INTERFERE BASIS. FOUR BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR GOE SCIENTISTS; THEY WOULD BOARD AT BALTRA.

4. NO ACTION MEXICO, NO WORK PLANNED GOM WATERS. CASEY

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